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MAIL THIEF SENTENCED TO THREE YEARS IN PRISON

PHOENIX – Charles Joseph Wray, Jr., 31, of Phoenix, was sentenced here Monday to 36 months in prison, to be followed by 36 months supervised release and restitution of \$8580.00, by U.S. District Judge Susan Bolton. Wray had pleaded guilty to violations of Bank Fraud and Possession of Counterfeit Mail Box Keys, in federal district court in Phoenix.

Wray admitted in previous court proceeding that on August 17, 2006, he possessed a counterfeit postal key to gain access to mail boxes at a Phoenix apartment complex. Wray was apprehended in possession of mail belonging to several individuals which was stolen from various locations. Wray also admitted to having committed Bank Fraud and having possessed without authority, on an earlier date, the driver's licenses of two other people. He admitted he used those means of identifications to deposit fraudulent checks into the victims' bank accounts. Wray also admitted to having misrepresented himself to the bank as the account holder and then withdrawing the fraudulently deposited money, thereby causing a loss to the bank.

A conviction for Bank Fraud carries a maximum penalty of thirty years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine or both. A conviction for Possession of Counterfeit Postal Keys carries a maximum penalty of ten years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, Judge Susan R. Bolton, consulted the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate non binding sentencing ranges. In imposing the actual sentence, the judge noted Wray had twice before been convicted of felony offenses and his present criminal conduct involved numerous victims. The judge did not accept Wray's excuse that his methamphetamine addition was the cause of his illegal conduct.

The investigation in this case was conducted by Postal Inspectors from the United States Postal Inspection Service. The prosecution is being handled by Richard I. Mesh, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-827-PHX-SRB

RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-044(Wray)